

Silhouette of the USS Florida (SSGN 728) transiting the Panama Canal with the Submarine Group TEN Force Protection Team on deck. Photo by MA2 Antonio G. Cuin, Jr.





"Over the last week the world has witnessed the skill and honor and resolve of our military in the course of battle. We have seen the character of this new generation of American Armed Forces. We've seen their daring against ruthless enemies and their decency to an oppressed people. Millions of Americans are proud of our military and so am I."

- President Bush, Mar. 26, 2003 MacDill Air Force Base

approval, reservists can print orders with a watermark in the background reading "DRAFT" that can be provided to employers or other organizations. When the orders have received final approval and are ready to be executed, the watermark will read "ORIGINAL."

"These innovative features in NOWS are what reservists asked for," said Rogers. "Research and development were based on the input of NRA staff and drilling reservists. Applicants initiating their own orders are getting more and more excited about training since NOWS was released. The Naval Reserve Force is enjoying it."

Like the Revolutionary War Minutemen before them who devised a system of horse-back rider alerts to assemble quickly, today's Naval reservists have found a way to mobilize quickly and spend more quality time with family in spite of the increasing demands placed on them by the Global War on Terror.

"My wife and children are glad that I've got at least one less trip," said EN2 Kevin Wright, a Naval reservist from Indian Head, Md., who deployed on the SUBGRU 10 Submarine Force Protection ADT with Crakow and Cuin. "Any time there is an issue with submarines, we have to be there," said Wright who works for the Treasury Department at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. "I've deployed five times in the past five months and one or two trips to Reserve Center Adelphi became normal with each mission. NOWS has streamlined the checkout process to the point where we just print our orders and go. NOWS is fast. It's user friendly. Even better ... it's family friendly."

## Visit the official NOWS Web site at: www.navres.navy.mil/navresfor/now.

JO1(AW) John J. Joyce is a Select Reservist in the Naval Reserve Naval Media Center Fleet Support Detachment Norfolk. The author served on active duty as the NOWS Fund Manager and Fund Approver for Commander, U.S. Atlantic Fleet Reserve Office when this story was written.

Editor's Note: As of March 26, 2003, and as we go to press, the total number of reserve personnel on active duty as reported by DoD is: Army National Guard and Army Reserve - 150,071; Naval Reserve - 9,494; Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve - 33,365; Marine Corps Reserve - 20,089; and the Coast Guard Reserve - 3,792. This brings the total Reserve and National Guard on active duty to 216,811 including both units and individual augmentees. At any given time, Services may mobilize some units and individual augmentees.

The list of mobilized personnel is an honor roll of dedication to duty and courage. I want to pay tribute to this brave group of men and women for answering the call of duty, and I want to thank the Naval Reservists of Submarine Group TEN for giving me a glimpse into their heroic lives.